MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Ahmad Azizi, director of hostage affairs in the prime minister's office, told PARS on 13 December that "the reply and the position of the United States to the conditions set by the Islamic Consultative Assembly have been basically positive" and that discussions between Iranian officials and the Algerian delegation are continuing. Azizi added that a statement will be issued when the Algerian delegation leaves Tehran. In an interview with LATIN, Azizi reiterated that the solution to the hostage crisis depends on the United States but that if it acts promptly the hostages can be released before Christmas. He also said that if the United States cannot fulfill any of the Majlis conditions fully, then the hostages "should be" released in groups.

Minister of State Behzad Nabavi, in an interview with the newspaper ISLAMIC REPUBLIC, reported by EFE, indicated that progress has been made in the negotiations and that Iran is willing to cooperate with the United States to meet the Majlis conditions but that the hostages' fate "depends solely on Washington." Algiers radio, citing the same interview, reported that Nabavi said the latest U.S. response "is clear with the exception of several details of minor importance." AFP, citing informed sources in Tehran, reported that "two technical questions" remain to be solved about the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages but did not specify what the questions are.

In an interview with Italian television, reported by EFE, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said the United States "must become more active" in the negotiations if it wants to resolve the hostage issue. The news agency also cited Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying that "the last reply is better for Iran and only a few points are pending in the negotiations."

In a further report, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN cited "international diplomatic sources" as saying that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has been playing an "important role" in the negotiations after "the intervention of an American Republican personality close to President-elect Ronald Reagan." KUNA, which reviewed the newspaper article, went on to say that the Algerian delegation currently in Tehran will meet with Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia, who is now in Damascus, "to convey the American-Iranian agreement." It added that the hostages will first stop in the Syrian capital after their release.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Khomeyni Speech--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni warned revolution guards leaders and officers of the army's political ideology bureau against internal enemies who "are plotting constantly" to make you rot from within and without and "undermine the people's faith in you." In a 13 December speech to the two groups, carried by Tehran radio, Khomeyni said the nation's enemies want "to instigate as much dissent in the army as they can" and to set the army and the revolution guards against each other in order to harm Islam. He underscored the need for unity among the army, revolution guards and gendarmerie in the face of these internal plots and the need to avoid claims and counterclaims that one group or the other does not support Islam or has no discipline. In a special appeal to the army officers of the former regime, Khomeyni stressed that they are not separate from the best of the nation and warned that if they again separate themselves, the people "will turn their backs on you and you will not last." "You must all be together"; "you must consider each other brothers," he concluded.

Raja'i Speech--According to Tehran radio, Prime Minister Raja'i told worshippers in Mashhad that "counterrevolutionaries" who criticize, undertake "deviationary activities" and foment conspiracies against the revolution will be defeated by the people under Islam. In his 12 December prayer sermon, the prime minister declared that Iran will not deviate from the Islamic path or ever again "sully our culture with Western manifestations."

Prison Commission--Following a decision by the Majlis to form a commission to investigate charges of torture in the country's prisons, Tehran radio reported that Ayatollah Khomeyni has chosen Mohammad Montazeri, son of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, to represent him on the commission while the Majlis has elected Jahrom deputy 'Ali Mohammad Besharati-Jahromi to be its representative.

Khalkhali Plans--AFP, citing the Tehran TIMES, reported that Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali plans to run against President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in the 1984 presidential election. Khalkhali recently resigned as head of Iran's antinarcotics unit amid charges of torture and misconduct in his operation of Tehran's prisons.

Khamene'i Sermon--In a 12 December sermon at Tehran University mosque, reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i praised Iran's "revolutionary struggling people" for triumphing in the "ultimate test" imposed by the war with Iraq, but he denounced a "faction that has failed the test." Referring to "agents" who have dared to say that Iran is working in the U.S. interest, the Friday imam warned that "the enemy of the Islamic revolution is now active in the rear." Khamene'i went on to refer to "internal battles" currently raging between the "the Islamic republic and the United States" in Kordestan, and he alleged that the faction trying to carry out acts of sabotage in the name of "democracy, freedom and solidarity with the masses" is linked with "world imperialism." The revolution's enemies, he said, are exploiting every weak point in the cities and society to sow sedition and foment disputes, to the extent of plotting to disrupt the schools. "Chanting slogans about freedom" is itself a plot, he said, "because we are all free." Khamene'i's references to problems in Kordestan, cities and shcools followed various earlier reports of fighting near Mahabad and political agitation in northern cities and Tehran schools.

Kordestan, Baluchestan Problems--Tehran radio reported that "people disgraced by the people's court" who used to agitate about "pseudoliberties of the masses" have taken hostage five members of a land allocation delegation in Kordestan. The radio also said that the gendarmerie in Baluchestan have seized weapons, drugs and large quantities of ammunition, "foreign cigarettes" and other contraband goods and have arrested a number of people.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tariq 'Aziz Statement--Deputy Prime Minister Tariz 'Aziz told the Iraqi National Assembly on 13 December that Iraq will not withdraw from Iran until it is assured of its rights in the area. In his address, reported by INA, 'Aziz underscored three conditions for an end to the fighting: Iraq's right to its land and waters based on the 1975 Algiers agreement; a policy of nonintervention in each other's internal affairs and an end to Iran's policy of expansion against Iraq and the Arab nation; and the restoration of the Arab nation's national rights that were usurped by Iran, presumably, among other things, the return of the three Gulf islands claimed by the UAE. The deputy prime minister characterized Iran's position as "confused and unsteady" with Iran's political leaders issuing contradictory statements and apparently "incapable" of adopting a clear position on anything. Iraq has cooperated fully with all attempts to end the conflict, 'Aziz stressed, but Iran's inability to offer a cohesive, clear stand has hampered such efforts.

Saudi, Kuwaiti Aid Denial--In a statement to the newspaper AL-JAZIRAH, reported by SPA, Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Ibd al-'Aziz strongly denied rumors that the Soviet Union is supplying arms to Iraq through Saudi Arabia. The defense minister said Saudi Arabia has no dealings with the Soviet Union and added that Iraq has not asked for any assistance. According to KUNA, Kuwait's Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn denied earlier PARS accusations that Iraq is receiving arms via Kuwaiti ports and highways.

Military Situation--According to an Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio, Iraqi forces repulsed an Iranian attack in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, killing 61. The communique also said that Iraqi antiaircraft fire downed an Iranian

helicopter near Susangerd. Tehran radio reported a "heavy exchange of fire" between the two sides around Abadan as well as further Iraqi shelling of Dezful. On other fronts, the radio said Iranian forces penetrated Iraqi lines in the Sumar region, inflicting losses, and also attacked Iraqi positions in Umm ar-Rasas. Iranian artillery hit Iraqi defenses around Ahvaz, the radio added, but heavy dust storms prevented an accurate damage assessment.

Brezhnev Gulf Proposals

Reaction to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's proposals for the military neutralization, political nonalignment and economic sovereignty of the Persian Gulf continues to be limited.

Iran--An unattributed commentary carried by Tehran radio called on the Soviet Union to act upon its own proposals by withdrawing from Afghanistan and dismantling its military bases in the region. Calling the plan a "good and positive proposal," the commentary questioned whether the Soviet proposal is an "attractive diplomatic attempt" to de-Westernize the Gulf or is an attempt to paint the Soviet Union as the wronged party in the Middle East and thus improve its credibility there.

Saudi Arabia--The newspaper AL-JAZIRAH, in a commentary reviewed by SPA declared that the Brezhnev proposals have produced feelings of "revulsion and disgust" in light of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the presence of its ships armed with nuclear weapons in the Red Sea Commentary in AL-YAWM reported by SPA, stressed that the Soviet plan has a "colonial logic" which ignores the role of Islam in the region and the ability of the Gulf states to defend themselves.

UAE--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah 'Ali al-Nu'aymi called on the Soviet Union to first withdraw its forces from Afghanistan if it wants the Gulf states to believe its proposals are serious. In an interview reported by the newspaper EMIRATES NEWS, the minister restated his country's policy that the security of the region should be left to the Gulf countries themselves. An editorial in AL-FAJR discussed the U.S. rejection of Brezhnev's proposals and called on the United States to announce its true intentions in the region. The editorial found it hard to rationalize the U.S. concern for Arab oil and Arab sovereignty with its failure to ask Israel to withdraw from Arab lands seized in the 1967 war or its failure to support the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Afghanistan--Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost told TASS that Afghanistan fully supports Brezhnev's proposals for a "peaceful political settlement" and a "full political normalization" of the situation around the country. Dost blamed "the forces of imperialism and hegemonism" for the worsening situation in the area and thanked the Soviet Union for its aid and support to the Afghan people against these outside threats.

OPEC Conference

Oil Prices--KUNA reported that Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali-Khalifah as-Sabah said in an interview that the adoption of a resolution on prices at the forthcoming OPEC conference in Bali is neither inevitable nor important. The minister said oil prices will remain stable if Iraq and Iran resume oil exports and if the Western countries use their accumulated reserves, thereby restricting imports. If these aims are not achieved, however, prices will rise as a result of an oil shortage, he added.

Iraq's Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, in an interview with Kuwaiti television reported by INA, said Iraq favors gradual price increases linked with inflation and the devaluation of the dollar but does not support "price jumps" because they upset the world market.

QNA reported that the UAE petroleum and natural resources minister, Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, told correspondents prior to his departure for Bali that the UAE sees no need to increase conditions in developing countries, but the OPEC ministerial conference

will discuss the question of prices. Dr al-'Utaybah added that UAE oil production will be subject to a short-term decrease in January prior to maintenance work which will make possible an increase in production.

Iranian Stand--Tehran radio reported that before his departure for Bali, the head of the Iranian delegation, Deputy Oil Minister Hassan Sadat, said Iran's priority at the conference will be to pursue the issue of the release of captured Oil Minister Javad Tondguyan. In a related AFP report, the chairman of the Majlis Petroleum Committee, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, asserted that the main subject of the conference will be Iran's demand for the release of the captured minister. He added that the Iranian delegation will back a Vienna report by eight OPEC countries recommending a basic price of $35-36 a barrel for Arabian light crude oil. Mo'infar admitted that Iran no longer exports refinery products but claimed that since rationing enough is still produced for daily needs, which are about half a million barrels of refinery products daily.

Syrian-Libyan Relations

Damascus radio reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will head a party and government delegation to Tripoli on 15 December for a meeting with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to complete the discussion of the "principles and formulas of unity" between Syria and Libya. Earlier the radio said Libya's secretary of the Administrative Committee for Revolutionary Information, Amin al-Bashshari, told SANA that during the next few days there will be a "strong boost" to Syrian-Libyan unity. Al-Bashshari added that Libya considers unity an "urgent necessity" to combat Zionism and U.S. imperialism and put Libyan and Syrian potentials in "the same trench."

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VOP REJECTS RICHARD ALLEN'S STATEMENT ON PLO

NC131932 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Arab and world information media showed interest in what they described as the outlines of U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan's policy toward the PLO.

These main lines, which were declared by Mr Richard Allen, U.S. President-elect Reagan's adviser for foreign affairs, can be summed up in the following points:

1. The PLO did not give up terrorism.
2. The PLO does not recognize Israel.
3. He doubts its representation of the Palestinian people.

Allen said that if the issues of terrorism and recognition [of Israel] are overcome the PLO participation in the efforts for a settlement in the Middle East can be discussed.

If we admit that these three points and the condition associated with them actually constitute main political lines for the new U.S. administration toward the PLO, we immediately maintain that they are rejected in part and parcel and in no way do they differ from the traditional U.S. policy toward the PLO. As we know, U.S. policies are hostile in part and parcel.

Reagan's adviser is demanding that the PLO and the Palestinian people give up their legitimate right to struggle against the Zionist occupation--a right that is approved by the United Nations and exercised by all the peoples of the world against the occupiers and invaders of land. He is asking us to give up this right in return for an imaginary price termed a discussion of the possibility of PLO participation in the process for a settlement.

We tell Reagan's adviser that we will not fall into this stupid ambush which, in the past, many officials of successive U.S. administrations set for us. We will not fall into this ambush because we know what we want and how to get it.

As for the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people, which Reagan's adviser doubts, we are content to say that the doubts of the U.S. administration do not concern us at all, because we are confident of ourselves, of our people, nation and allies. We are also confident of the fact that the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people is 100 percent, both at the level of the Palestinian people, whose continuous uprising provides decisive referendum results, and at the level of our nation and allies, where there is an Arab and international consensus that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Whether or not the U.S. administration admits these facts it will not change them, because they are deep-rooted facts upon which international equations are based, equations that the U.S. administration cannot abolish, either by statements or by war.

The PLO views the statement by Reagan's adviser as a repetition of the traditional U.S. policy against the PLO. Consequently, the PLO's position on this statement has not and will not change from its principled stand toward past U.S. policies. This stand upholds confrontation, and waiting and seeing positive aspects.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES RALLY ON PFLP ANNIVERSARY

NC141902 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1635 GMT 14 Dec 80

[14 December speech by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at a ceremony held at Arab University in Beirut on the PFLP's 13th anniversary--recorded]

[Excerpts] We must set an example for the Arab nation in confronting these U.S. fleets which are now gathering in our area--the 7th Fleet, the 5th Fleet, the 6th Fleet, the Rapid Deployment Force and I do not know what. They have also brought some allied and friendly fleets. They believe they can intimidate and subjugate this nation. The process is clear, brothers: it is a plot that has been going on since they pushed agent As-Sadat to visit Jerusalem.

They speak of a European, a Jordanian or a Labor Party option. They are now trying to polish the face of the Labor Party. I want to remind you, as well as everyone, that all the crimes committed against the Palestinian people were committed by the so-called Labor Party.

I warn you that we are [word indistinct] an attempt to Balkanize the Arab region and the Middle East. We must understand what is going on now. When Comrade Brezhnev submitted five points [regarding the Persian Gulf], the reply was not about the five points but about Poland. We must understand what is happening in the world now. We are witnessing a serious and [word indistinct] situation.

I want to say something to those who speak about the resettlement [of Palestinians in Lebanon.] What resettlement? There is one place to resettle the Palestinians, be they dead or alive, it is Palestine. [applause] When I say Palestine, let everyone understand that Acre comes before Gaza and Beersheba comes before Hebron. Let Begin and the Likud Party understand this: Beersheba comes before Hebron and Acre before Gaza. I say this so the Likud and the Labor parties may understand this.

The plot is big and is not only directed against the Palestinian people. The plot is much more serious: it is directed against the entire region. They are trying to Balkanize the region. When Brezhnev submitted five points for a solution in the Gulf they rejected them and raised with him the problem of Poland. Why? Because there is a plan to Balkanize the area.

Agent As-Sadat has given the United States bases in the Sinai and in R'as Banas on the Red Sea. The United States has also been given bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya. We are witnessing a dangerous international escalation. What is our attitude toward this escalation? Our attitude is confrontation. I say this because we fought various types of people. If the U.S. Marines think they are smart, let them come. I will welcome them at the coast of Ad-Damur [south of Beirut]. [applause]

There can be no stability, security, peace or solution in the Middle East without the restoration of the national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to every inch of Palestine, from An-Naqurah and to (?Rafah). [applause] We have the right to return, to self-determination and to establish our independent state on our Palestinian soil. It is a revolution until victory. [applause]

A short while ago, Brother Abu Mahir [PFLP official] assured me about [the health of] my brother and comrade George [George Habash, PFLP secretary general]. From this platform, I tell George all these masses are with you. These masses pray for you and stand with you. [words indistinct]

'ARAFAT MEETS ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER 12 DEC

NC130756 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Yesterday Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, met in Damascus with Algerian Foreign Minister Brother Mohamed Ben Yahia. Ben Yahia conveyed an oral message to Abu 'Ammar from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid pertaining to the latest developments of the Arab situation. They also discussed a number of questions which concern our Arab nation at this important and serious phase through which the area is passing and the joint Palestinian-Algerian moves in this sphere. They concentrated on Palestinian-Algerian relations, and Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the Algerian minister to convey an oral message to President Bendjedid connected with the latest developments of the situation in the area, particularly the recurrent Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon. They also discussed the joint Palestinian-Algerian coordination in confronting our Arab nation's issues.

The brother commander in chief thanked the Algerian president and the foreign minister for Algeria's firm and permanent support of the Palestinian people's just struggle, the PLO and the Palestinian people's revolution. An atmosphere of fraternity and constructive positiveness prevailed at the meeting and it was agreed to continue the contacts and consultations at this important and delicate phase.

PLO OFFICIAL OPTIMISTIC TOWARD ENDING WAR

LD141454 Kuwait KUNA in English 1016 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Dec (KUNA)--Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee's Secretary Mohammed Zuhdi an-Nashashibi Sunday expressed hope that the PLO's efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war would succeed.

He told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM newspaper that the PLO has a definite role in mind and that is "to stop the Gulf war because it is not in the interest of the two peoples concerned." He added that efforts launched by PLO and the non-aligned countries movement to end the war and start negotiations to solve the dispute and establish good neighbourly relations will inevitably succeed. An-Nashashibi called for a collective effort to abort American attempts to "reimpose U.S. influence in the Gulf region". An-Nashashibi expressed hopes that the National Palestinian Council (parliament in exile) would convene within two months. The council was postponed for a long time because of circumstances prevailing in the area, he said.

The Palestinian official predicted that imperialist attacks against the Palestinian revolution and the national and progressive regimes in the Arab world would intensify [words indistinct] Ronald Reagan assumes office January 20. He called for toppling Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat because he will play a major role in such an attack. He also called upon all Arab countries to live up to their responsibilities and abort an Israeli "conspiracy" currently being executed against Lebanon.

REPORTAGE ON OPEC OIL MINISTERS' MEETING IN BALI

For reportage on the OPEC oil ministers' meeting in Bali, Indonesia, see the International Affairs section of the Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT of 15 December and subsequent editions.

KUWAIT

KUNA REVIEWS PRESS ON BREZHNEV'S GULF PROPOSAL

LD121346 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Dec (KUNA)--Extracts from Kuwaiti editorials Friday:

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Brezhnev's proposals:

"The five point plan proposed by the Soviet leader to guarantee the Gulf region's security and ensure the freedom of international navigation appear at the first glance to be reasonable and acceptable if the superpowers struggling for the wealth of the region agree on these bases, including the neutralization of the Gulf and keeping it away from international conflicts. In fact, the Soviet leader could not present such proposals before linking the Afghanistan and Poland crises to what is going on in the Gulf. An American official has summarized the whole situation by saying that this is a Soviet attempt to rush as far as could be into marine areas while, at the same time, Moscow is ignoring the presence of its forces in Afghanistan (?and) elsewhere which are posing a threat to the Gulf. "The American official's statement in addition to Soviet statements reveal the feverish competition between the two superpowers searching for military facilities and bases in the Middle East. Sad enough, as the two super powers are busy working out their plans and strategies, the Middle East countries themselves are engaged in side issues and problems which add to their [word indistinct] without paying attention to real dangers surrounding them."

AL-WATAN on the same subject:

"Brezhnev's proposals to keep the Gulf region free from military and economic dominance came at a time when American plans are escalating to transfer the Gulf region into an area of American vital interests. American circles have doubted the success of the Gulf security charter of Brezhnev's doctrine as a replacement of Carter's doctrine. Yet they said that the proposals are under study. These circles utilize what they call the bow of crisis extending from the Horn of Africa to Afghanistan to be a subject for bargaining over the Soviet leader's proposals. Undoubtedly, Brezhnev's proposals are to be welcomed and respected by peoples in the region which are constantly liable to interventions from the American military power in an attempt to stop these people's progress and sovereignty over their national wealth."

AL-WABAS on the same subject:

"The difference between the Soviet Union and the United States is that the first is more capable of formulating innocent and bright words while the latter more often uses naive and well-composed statements. This can be noticed in Brezhnev's doctrine when compared to Carter's doctrine on the Gulf region. The Arab countries in the Gulf should not be deceived by the Soviet innocent 'doctrines', and they should pay full attention to the aggressive and hostile American 'doctrines.' What we fear most is that the big powers are bringing their struggle to the (?thresholds) of the Gulf as such raising doubts that they had chosen this area as a field of confrontation in the 80's." [sentence as received]

ARAB TIMES on the same subject:

"It is unfortunate but a fact of present day life that mutual suspicions built over nearly four decades should continue to dominate the thoughts of world powers. The West might have good reason to doubt the Kremlin's sincerity. As a West German minister pointed out, the Soviets should vacate Afghanistan before making any peace offer. The Americans have seen in the offer an attempt to placate Mrs. Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India.

"If international affairs are to continue in this manner, that is by being clouded with distrust all the way, there is little chance of any part of the world being spared of power rivalries. It means that no matter what progress man might achieve in science and go out probing into space, he is unable to set his own house in order. It would have been worthwhile taking Brezhnev at his word and ask if his plan would include withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. May be, Brezhnev would have backed out.

"The Gulf states learn a lesson from this small storm. Their security continues to be the concern of the super powers, no matter what they themselves feel about it. Thus it is futile to depend on a Brezhnev plan or a Reagan reaction for what the Gulf really needs, an existence without interference. The only answer is Arab unity. It is disunity that brings in the powers from outside, who take sides and play one against the other, all the while talking about the need for peace. As long as that unity remains out of reach, the Gulf must face these storms, small and big."

Kuwait TIMES on the same subject:

"Kuwait's welcome to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's proposal for pulling out all military bases from the Gulf is in line with its known policy in this matter and it represents no doubt the standpoint of most of the countries in the region. As the position stands at present, the region is dotted with big power military bases. The United States and its allies have about 60 warships in this sensitive belt while the Soviet Union has half this number. In fact, the demand for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf has been made for a long time by Kuwait and certain other states of the region. Likewise, the proposal for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace has always been moved strongly by concerned states including India and Pakistan. However, notwithstanding the understandable divergences of interpretation and the diplomatic "war of words", the proposal calls for concrete and sustained support from more and more states to generate moves towards its eventual realization."

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER DENIES TRANSIT OF SOVIET AID TO IRAQ

LD130946 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0645 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Dec (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, has refuted rumors by communist and Zionist quarters that the Soviet Union is supplying Iraq with weapons and ammunition through Saudi Arabia, and that there are Soviet plans to supply Iraq with weapons and ammunition through the port of Yanbu' and that the Soviet aircraft began to land at Badanah, northeastern Saudi Arabia, carrying supplies to Iraq. In a statement to AL-JAZIRAH published today, his royal highness said there are no dealings between us and the Soviet Union, and Iraq has not asked us for anything connected with such rumors. The minister of defense and aviation went on to say if we followed up all the rumors hatched against us and our country by hostile quarters we would have to leave our work in the service of our country and our people to devote our time to reply to such rumors.

Regarding the campaign of creating doubts being stirred up against Saudi Arabia that it is unable to defend itself, His Highness Prince Sultan stressed Saudi Arabia has no desire to commit aggression against anyone. However, if aggression is committed against Saudi Arabia it will, by its own means, its spiritual and religious strength, and through the faith of its people and through its armed forces, it will prove the complete opposite of what is being rumored about Saudi Arabia. He said the Saudi Army is capable of protecting and defending Saudi Arabia and that we are, with God's help, able to defend ourselves with all that we possess against any aggressor. His highness added: I do not believe there is any indication pointing to an intended aggression against Saudi Arabia because all the neighboring countries are sister Arab countries.

PRESS CRITICISM OF BREZHNEV GULF PROPOSAL CITED

LD130920 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0520 GMT 13 Dec 80

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Dec (SPA)--AL-JAZIRAH writes that the political proposals put forward by Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev when he addressed the Indian Parliament during his recent visit, concerning what he called the security of the Gulf region and his call to the United States and its allies to sign pledges not to set up military bases or introduce nuclear weapons into the Gulf region and his talk about the right of peoples to self-determination--all this stirs feelings of revulsion and disgust more than feelings of astonishment and surprise. The paper denounces the submission of such proposals. It says that the Soviets who put forward such proposals were the ones who militarily occupied Afghanistan and are less than 500 km away from the Gulf region, after they had been more than 2,000 km away. It ways that the Soviets were the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the waters of the Red Sea via Bab el-Mandeb abroad their atomic ships, many of which dock in more than one seaport on the Red Sea, threatening the countries of the region, their threat stretching the whole Horn of Africa region. It says that it was the Soviets who invaded Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968 and that they were the ones who threatened Romania with invasion and are now threatening Poland.

AL-YAWM stresses that the talk about the security of the Gulf will remain an intruding and parasitical voice, whether it came from the West or the East. It says that only yesterday the Western countries were contributing talk about the security and protection of the region and were offering to put their fleets and forces in motion. Today the voice comes from the East and Brezhnev is offering proposals about security to the region with the same colonial logic which the Portuguese [as received] used when Columbus discovered the American continent and this land had people who owned it. It adds that overlooking historical considerations constitutes a black mark against contemporary political thinking, which obstinately refuses to deal with the recurring facts of the international arena. It points out that foremost among these black marks is the deliberate crusade to disregard or close eyes to the Islamic power breaking forth on the land of Islam, the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, the center and the nucleus. It says that this disregard seeks first of all to ignore that the house has its own owner to protect it and that the defense of the entirety of this large Islamic house is the largest trust in the hands of Arabs and Muslims. It points out that any attempt to diminish this leading role and this sacred Islamic duty is a form of sleeping, which must be awakened by a sudden electric shock. It says that the Arab and Islamic owners of the house are most fitting to apply this shock to awaken those who close their eyes to facts. The paper stresses that the international community no longer accepts the patronage of the major powers and resounding statements have no place at all.

UAE

RASHID 'ABDALLAH REACTS TO BREZHNEV GULF PROPOSAL

GF141230 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 14 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Dec (WAM)--If the Soviet Union is serious in its suggestion of agreement between the superpowers on noninterference in the Gulf region, it should first prove its bona fides by withdrawing from Afghanistan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah said here today.

In an interview with the correspondent of the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, 'Abdallah said: "If Mr Brezhnev is serious about noninterference, he should allow Afghanistan to choose its own government."

The Soviet leader made his proposal about the Gulf during a visit to India earlier this week.

The minister restated the policy of the Emirates relating to regional security. "We believe security should be left to the governments and peoples of the Gulf. We don't like to see interference from the superpowers. We can handle our own security, as a government in this region." He stressed the UAE support for the United Nations declaration calling for the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean to be zones free from the superpowers and the presence of atomic weapons. Asked if he agreed with the proposals of Brezhnev, 'Abdallah added: "I don't agree with any superpower."

EDITORIAL ON U.S. REACTION TO BREZHNEV PLAN

GF141623 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 13 Dec 80 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The U.S. rejection of Brezhnev's proposals for an international agreement to keep all hands off the Gulf raises a number of questions, particularly as the U.S. State Department spokesman was terse in his comment on the proposals, describing them as "not new." This phrase does not tell us anything "new" about U.S. policy of interfering in the area's affairs and can only mean persistence in a policy hostile to the interests and independence of the peoples and countries of the area.

If, as a superpower, the Soviet Union is asked to consolidate international security, stability and cooperation, the United States is equally asked to respect those principles. Indeed, the United States is asked to do more: to respect the will of the Arab peoples and countries in view of the fact that the United States is the principal defender of Israel's racist policy based on aggression and threats to all the Arab countries, and not to the Gulf area alone. It also provides a protective umbrella for the Zionist presence in the occupied Arab territories at the expense of Palestinian and Arab rights whose legality and justice the international community has recognized.

If asking Israel to withdraw from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and to recognize the Palestinian people's right to repatriation and self-determination does not represent anything "new," this does not mean that such a demand should be ignored.

If an agreement to keep the Gulf and Indian Ocean--at present and in the future--free of the bases and forces of all international powers and the recognition of the full sovereignty of the countries of these areas over their lands and waters does not, in the U.S. view, represent anything "new," what then is new in Washington's view? Is it the formation of the rapid deployment force and preparing it, on Arab territory, for intimidation and aggression? Or is it the acceptance of U.S. "vital" interests and their protection?

If oil supplies and the Soviet threat to the region are, in the U.S. view, the "understandable" content of the U.S. slogan "vital interests," what are the "international" guarantees the Americans want to be satisfied about the security of these interests and to end their apprehensions? Why don't they announce these guarantees so that everyone will know?

There is no convincing or acceptable U.S. reply to these questions--and to many others. Indeed, they confirm, as far as the overall Arab cause is concerned, that various aspects of U.S. policy are harmoniously linked with each other. In essence U.S. interests do not differ in the western part of the Arab homeland or the eastern part. Nor do they differ with regard to the Palestinian question or with regard to the Gulf question. Our Arab nation is capable of gauging the dangers threatening it from any source and of distinguishing the real interests of all the parties. Hence, it is always able to choose the principles and ideas which it defends inspired only by its free will.

PAPER URGES IRAN TO NEGOTIATE ON GULF ISLANDS

GF131610 ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 12 Dec 80 p 1

[Editorial by 'Abdallah 'Imran: "Arab Rights and Negotiation on Rights"]

[Text] The three Arab islands, like every other inch of Arab soil in Palestine, Morocco or the Arabian Gulf, are a matter of principle on which there can be no forfeiting of rights or retreat, whatever the party that seized these islands and regardless of the circumstances in which these Arab lands were wrested from the Arab motherland. Sooner or later they are bound to be returned to their legitimate owners and original inhabitants.

Despite the regretable climate of war in our area, and despite the special circumstances our Muslim neighbor Iran is experiencing at present, talk about negotiations and a fraternal dialogue under the umbrella of Islam and common interests should be acceptable to both the UAE and Iran. Dialogue is the only positive pattern in international relations that can lead to the establishment of a sound basis in Arab-Iranian relations, which are under real strain 12 weeks after the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war. This is a valuable, indeed an historic, opportunity for the Islamic Republic of Iran to return matters to their legal framework and restore the usurped rights to those they are due, and thus finally end transgressions committed by the shah against legitimate Arab rights and the Arab people in general.

We do not believe that negotiations along this road will harm Iran's reputation, the war notwithstanding. Also we do not believe that an agreement between Khomeyni's Tehran and the UAE on a just and honorable solution guided by Islam and in the interest of the two peoples can be considered a concession by Iran stemming from the Iraq-Iran war in a region relatively far from the scene of clashes. But this--if Iran should so desire--will be a fraternal Islamic dialogue and negotiations of the brave. The war in Iran confirms to the Iranian leaders that, just as Dezful is dear to them, the islands--and every part of the larger Arab homeland--are equally dear to us. If the Iranians are, as they claim, fighting in defense of their country's sovereignty, then they should not expand the war but embark on a historic and responsible action: respond to the UAE's request and enter into fraternal and direct negotiations with the island's owners.

We do not imagine that the principles of the Iranian Islamic revolution led by Imam Khomeyni can ascribe the character of "pragmatism" to a provocative, expansionist and unchivalrous action carried out by the buried shah when many were in a state of slumber. What we can imagine is for the contrary to happen: Iran accepts the UAE's proposal for serious negotiations over the islands as a prelude to their return to their legitimate and rightful owners. Such a step will consolidate the struggle of the Arabs and the Iranians against the United States, Zionism and the Camp David pact. It can only be a responsible action that safeguards the Iranian revolution's national security and winds for it another phase of Arab understanding, which is indispensable to it these days.

AL-FAJR REPORTS PLAN FOR ANTI-IRAN RADIO IN CAIRO

GF071613 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 6 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] Technicians of the Cairo radio engineering section are preparing the final studies on a special radio that will transmit from Cairo deep into eastern Iran close to the Soviet Union. The radio will begin its mediumwave transmission as of January. The radio's programs will be transmitted again on shortwave in order to reach deep into Iran.

According to well-informed sources in the Egyptian Information Ministry, the radio will broadcast a daily plea by the new Iranian emperor--the shah's son who has recently declared himself emperor--to the Iranian people.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF LINOWITZ DELEGATION

Ghali Remarks

NC131715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1638 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 13 Dec (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stressed that during the visit to Cairo, due to begin Monday, by Sol Linowitz, the personal envoy of U.S. President Jimmy Carter and head of the U.S. delegation to the autonomy talks, Egypt will stress its firm principles on a just and comprehensive peace based on "complete withdrawal from all Arab territory occupied in 1967 and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination."

Ghali described the autonomy negotiations as a basic step to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. He also stressed Egypt's rejection of partial solutions.

It should be recalled that during Sol Linowitz' 1-day visit to Egypt he will be received by President Anwar as-Sadat and Dr Mustafa Khalil, deputy leader of the National Democratic Party for foreign contacts. Linowitz will later leave for Tel Aviv on a similar visit. Sol Linowitz' visit is aimed at preparing an overall assessment of the autonomy negotiations since they began on 25 June 1979 in order to submit a report to the new U.S. administration so that it can take the necessary steps to boost the peace efforts in the Middle East.

Linowitz is accompanied by George Sherman, the official spokesman of the U.S. delegation.

Linowitz Arrival

NC141459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1433 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Excerpt] Cairo, 14 Dec (MENA)--Mr Sol Linowitz, the U.S. envoy to the Middle East and head of the U.S. delegation to the autonomy negotiations, arrived in Cairo at 1430 today accompanied by a small U.S. delegation which includes George Sherman, the U.S. delegation's official spokesman. Linowitz was received at the airport by the foreign ministry's director of protocol, Ambassador Salah Khalifah, U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton, and the staff members of the U.S. embassy.

Linowitz stated that he is carrying two messages to President as-Sadat from U.S. President Carter and from President-elect Reagan. He declined to give any details on the contents of the two messages or to say whether they were written or oral. He said: I shall delay answering all questions until after my meeting with President as-Sadat tomorrow.

Linowitz Statement

NC142114 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2012 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 Dec (MENA)--U.S. President Jimmy Carter's special envoy Sol Linowitz affirmed this evening that the message which he is carrying from President-elect Reagan to President Anwar as-Sadat reaffirms that the United States will adhere to its role as a full partner in the autonomy negotiations and will undertake to continue taking part in these negotiations. The U.S. envoy made this statement to correspondents and journalists after his meeting this evening with Dr Mustafa Khalil the deputy leader of the National Democratic Party for foreign contacts. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

Linowitz affirmed that the United States is doing its utmost to maintain progress in the negotiations, and that the oral message which he is carrying asserts this.

Asked about a report published by the New York TIMES that the message he is carrying from President-elect Reagan to President as-Sadat reaffirms the U.S. administration's adherence to the Camp David agreements, Linowitz said: What was published is not far from the truth, and there are some other subjects which will be discussed with President as-Sadat.

Asked whether there is a specific date for the resumption of the negotiations after the previous date was put off, Linowitz said that he does not think that there is a specific date. But there is common insistence by the parties concerned to resume the negotiations as soon as possible. He added that he will be visiting Israel to hold talks, and that he is carrying the views of the new U.S. administration to the Israeli Government.

Asked whether he will address an invitation to President as-Sadat to visit Washington, Linowitz said that the talks between him and President as-Sadat will not deal with this subject.

Asked whether he will relinquish his post as special envoy of the U.S. administration, he said that he suggested to President-elect Ronald Reagan to appoint a person who is close to him and enjoys his full confidence, since he will be serving as the personal representative of the president of the United States.

Asked about progress in the autonomy negotiations, Linowitz said that he will postpone talking about this subject until tomorrow, after his meeting with President as-Sadat. He added that he discussed all issues with Dr Mustafa Khalil: the present state of the negotiations, the future possibilities, and the general state of relations among the parties concerned. He also gave Dr Khalil an idea about the nature of the message which he is carrying from President-elect Reagan to President as-Sadat.

AS-SADAT MESSAGE READ TO ACCOUNTING CONFERENCE

NC131841 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Cairo, 13 Dec (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister for People's Assembly Affairs Fikri Makram 'Ubayd today inaugurated the International Scientific Conference for Accounting and Auditing. This conference is sponsored by the Merchants Union under the patronage of President Anwar as-Sadat.

Fikri Makram 'Ubayd delivered a speech on behalf of President as-Sadat. At the beginning of this speech, 'Ubayd conveyed the president's greetings to the conferees and his wishes that their work will be crowned with success. 'Ubayd said that the great importance which we attach to the conference stems not only from the participation of an elite group of specialists in the conference's work, with their efforts and knowledge, and the subjects which will be submitted for discussion, but this great importance also emanates from the results which the conference will hopefully produce in the local and world arenas.

The deputy prime minister added that the profession of accounting and auditing almost became extinct under the former totalitarian regime. However, this profession has again prospered in the wake of the corrective revolution led by President as-Sadat--a revolution which entrenched the bulwarks of the economic open door policy for the good of the individual and of the community. Fikri Makram 'Ubayd noted that the economic open door policy creates the requisite openness to the outside world to compensate for the past period and to keep abreast of modern scientific developments. This policy would also enable the accounting offices to discharge their duty, to serve as schools for the training of accountants and professionals and to play their important role in administrative consultation and in the study of the economic feasibility of projects.

Fikri Makram 'Ubayd explained that the problem of inflation is considered one of those problems now facing the whole world, particularly the Third World states--and we are part of the Third World. This fact elucidates the importance of the role played by accountants in evading the effects of inflation which befall the national economy. This role is played by seeing to it that budgets project an image of economic reality and [words indistinct] of the real financial status of projects in a way which would reassure investors and banks about the soundness and seriousness of projects.

In concluding his speech, 'Ubayd delineated the importance of developing the constitution of accountants laid down in 1958 and to adapt it to the present economic and social circumstances so that this constitution would establish the basis of relations among the members of the profession and for these members' dealings with their clients.

The inaugural session was attended by Dr ('Abd al-'Aziz Hijazi), the doyen of the Merchants Union. A number of specialists from Britain and France, accounting instructors from Egyptian universities and representatives of the central bank are participating in the conference. The conferees will discuss 22 theses on the subjects of accounting regulations, methods of auditing, inflation, accounting, the training of professional accountants, accounting [repeat as received] and administrative consultations. The conference is scheduled to conclude its work the day after tomorrow, Monday.

MUHYI AD-DIN ADDRESSES POLITICAL RALLY 14 DEC

NC141944 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din has declared that Egypt will continue on its way to achieve a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. Egypt, he said, condemns foreign interventions in Africa and condemns the Soviet aggression against the people of Afghanistan. In a speech he delivered today at the political rally held in Banha, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that Vice President Husni Mubarak's recent visit to the United States achieved its objectives in full.

The deputy prime minister spoke about the issues of internal action. He said that the government has prepared the amendments to the local government law, and these admendments will be submitted to the parliamentary body of the National Democratic Party [NDP] before submitting them to the People's Assembly. The most significant of these amendments is the transfer of the powers of the Council of Governors to the local councils. He also spoke about the importance of work to solve the problems of the masses as a principal element of party action.

He then referred to the question of utilizing university graduates for developing the new societies. He said that the government has prepared a comprehensive study on this issue and sent it to the NDP committees for their discussion. Earlier, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din inaugurated and laid the cornerstone for a number of service and utility projects in the Al-Qalyubiyah Governorate.

TARIQ 'AZIZ SPEAKS TO ASSEMBLY ON WAR WITH IRAN

JN132053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Dec (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz has stressed that Iraq will not pull its forces out of Iranian territory until it is reassured about the restoration of the rights for which it has struggled. In a statement at the National Assembly today, Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister, said that Iraq's stand on the dispute with Iran is based on three essential points. These are its right to its lands and waters; the establishment of relations of good neighborliness based on respect of sovereignty, nonintervention in internal affairs and an end to Iran's adoption of a policy based on expansion in its relations with Iraq and the Arab nation; and lastly, the restoration of the Arab nation's national rights that were usurped by Iran.

He stressed that the Iranian stand on the dispute was and still is confused and unsteady. He added that Iran is so far completely incapable of adopting any clear and cohesive political stand on the dispute and on the future of relations with Iraq and the Arab nation. It is also incapable of adopting any clear stand on the issue of the demarcation of land and water borders, he said. Moreover, he added, the stand of the political leaders in Iran is characterized by contradiction.

Tariq 'Aziz said that the Iraqi political stand is clear, strong and derived from its principles and claims to its legitimate rights. He said that in its principled or political management of the dispute's affairs, Iraq does not proceed from a stand of sheer animosity. He stressed that Iraq is waging its battle with Iran without any international cover [as received] from any superpower or any international bloc.

He added that Iraq dealt with the envoys or representatives of international bodies and states in an honorable, legal and sound manner. Iraq, he said, has proved its stand through its political activities, a stand which stems from its desire to establish relations of true good neighborliness with Iran. He then pointed out the irresponsible hostile stand adopted by Iran. Tariq 'Aziz reviewed in detail the mediation attempts undertaken by the nonaligned movement, the Islamic Conference organization and the UN secretary general to solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. He said that Iraq stipulated that no Arab state participate in a committee of the nonaligned states due to the fact that the dispute is of a pan-Arab nature and because as a matter of principle, it is inadmissible for any Arab state to play the role of a mediator. He said that the PLO was exempted from this out of the desire to consolidate the PLO's stand and position on the level of the region or the international level.

He added that Iraq was surprised by the formation of a committee that included an Arab state, and it explained this to the nonaligned movement's chairman, the PLO and the committee members, particularly India and Yugoslavia. However, he said, the Iranian Government found in the change that has occurred in the composition of the six-member committee--which includes Cuba, the PLO, India, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Pakistan--an excuse to evade responsibility toward the formation of the committee. It insisted on the presence of a certain state in the committee, something which conflicts with the traditions and principles of forming such committees because no party should insist on the presence of a certain state, especially since the other party does not desire that state's presence. He stressed that in this respect, the Iranian stand is not based on any logic or any traditions being followed.

Tariq 'Aziz pointed to Iraq's acceptance of the Pakistani president's initiative on announcing a unilateral cease-fire. He said that Iraq put forth practical and natural conditions and authorized Pakistani President Ziaul Haq to announce this. Yet Iran made no efforts and did not adhere to the cease-fire, which was implemented by Iraq at the beginning of last October.

Tariq 'Aziz explained that Iraq also approved a proposal on the formation of a committee comprising a group of heads of Islamic states, to be headed by Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, to reach a peaceful settlement for the existing struggle, yet Iran did not respond to the above-mentioned proposal, which was presented to the Iranians more than a month ago.

Tariq 'Aziz said that several attempts were made by friendly states within the framework of the efforts to reach a peaceful settlement for the struggle. Iraq responded positively to these attempts, among which was the one made by former Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was delegated by UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim upon the UN Security Council's behest, with the aim of reaching a settlement to the struggle. Tariq 'Aziz expects that Palme will make another visit to the area either later this month or in the beginning of the coming month. Palme will try, as he promised before, to start a new step on the path of establishing a peaceful settlement.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz said that some international circles, due to well-known reasons and interests, do not criticize the Iranian stand and do not expose the reality of the contradictory, confused and impotent Iranian stand on the conflict with Iraq. However, these international circles express, in some other terms, their bewilderment at and dissatisfaction with the Iranian political stand. Tariq 'Aziz emphasized that the Iranian inability to adopt a clear and cohesive stand has become widely known to world public opinion.

Tariq 'Aziz reviewed the Amman summit's outcome and said in this regard that this summit was one of the most successful Arab summits due to the historic value of the economic resolutions taken during the summit. This is in addition to the mature approach that dominated the political deliberations. Tariq 'Aziz added that among the most prominent resolutions in the history of joint Arab action is the commitment of the rich Arab countries to help the poor Arab countries, provided that the latter improve their economic, social and cultural status.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed that Iraq will work through all means to implement the charter of joint Arab economic action. He added that the implementation of this charter will create new conditions for joint Arab economic action, which will be capable of securing the infrastructure necessary for the unified Arab struggle.

RCC member Tariq 'Aziz asserted that the Amman Arab summit has further entrenched the historical course that had been drawn up by the Baghdad summit. This is considered as a grand stand because U.S. imperialism, Zionism and all capitulatory powers have been claiming that time is on the side of the Camp David scheme. Tariq 'Aziz added that the Arab nation has proved in Tunis and Amman that what it drew up in Baghdad constitutes a firm program and that this program is being entrenched further day by day. This program will continue to get stronger and not weaker, and this is quite an important matter in the development of the Arab-Zionist struggle.

He pointed out that those who boycotted the Amman summit had taken part in preparing the summit's documents, particularly the political ones. Except for the request to postpone the summit, those who boycotted the meeting did not have any political proposal that was more developed, whether in contents or in formula, than the resolutions of the Amman summit.

Tariq 'Aziz said that the Arab nation has the general will to develop and safeguard joint Arab action despite recent attempts to sabotage joint Arab action by the Syrian regime and those running in its orbit. The general will moves in this direction, he said, but the Arab arena is a wide one and has a large number of countries and leadership, some of which are small, ineffective and incapable of taking the initiative and laying down sound concepts of joint Arab action whether in the political and economic field or any other field.

He emphasized that the initiative to strengthen joint Arab action is not an initiative of a diplomatic or political nature. If such an initiative has a pan-Arab and serious objective as its aim, it will be a heavy price for the one calling for it because it will incite against him all the forces that are hostile to joint Arab action.

He added that Iraq's initiative in calling for the Baghdad summit was not a mere initiative that would have succeeded in the same manner if it had been made by another state because any initiative must be laid on a base. Once the initiative has to do with the Arab-Zionist struggle, the initiative's undertaker must posses the factors that qualify him to be the base of this struggle; namely, he must possess the military, economic, human and political factors which render him a point around whom the others rally or around whom the other parties meet so that he can actually issue a resolution and draw up a program to confront the Zionist enemy. No coincidence made Baghdad the confrontation base against the Camp David scheme; it is the qualifications possessed by Iraq and its leader that made the Baghdad summit possible and that have made this summit's program a program around which all can rally.

Tariq 'Aziz stressed that the Arab nation or joint Arab action has always been in need of a base on which it could rely, a base which possesses the qualifications for joint Arab action and that makes the fast and clever initiative in the right time, putting up with the consequences that may result from this.

He said that the plotting to which Iraq has been exposed for 3 years is due to its mature, principled and known stands since the beginning of the revolution. An additional reason is that it was the one which initiatied the convocation of the Baghdad summit and which shouldered the main duty of serving this summit. He added that the Arab nation was in need of the leading role of an Arab country and an Arab leader. Iraq, under President Saddam Husayn's leadership, was able to play this role at the Baghdad, Tunis and Amman summits, where President Saddam Husayn was the axis of Arab activity and an axis for making the principal decisions and initiative and for solving the problems developing inside the conference.

The deputy prime minister then answered the questions of the National Assembly members.

MILITARY COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES 12-14 DEC

Communique No 177

JN121615 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1608 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Communique No 177 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 12 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continue to stand with firmness and resolution on the sectors which are under their control. The outcome of their activities last night and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: Two killed in the Abadan area.

B. One helicopter was downed in the area of Khafajiyeh [Susangerd].

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Two martyrs.

B. In equipment: One vehicle and one personnel carrier were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 December 1980

Communique No 178

JN131711 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1658 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Communique No 178 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 13 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With high self-confidence, our armed forces take control of their operations sectors. Following are the results of their activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel: 4 killed in the Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] region and 21 killed in the Abadan region. This brings the number of enemy losses in personnel to 25 killed.

B. In equipment: The destruction of the following: one tank, one gun and one bulldozer.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 11 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Two vehicles were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 December 1980

Communique No 179

JN141729 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1708 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Communique No 179 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces Forces General Command on 14 December 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces' victories over the racist Persian enemy continue. All of the ignorant Persians' attempts to undermine these victories will fail. The outcome of the activities in the operational sectors last night and today is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. In personnel:

1. At 1700 yesterday, 13 December 1980, the enemy tried to approach our forward units' positions at the (Dana Khoshk) junction in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area. Our valiant forces repulsed the enemy with great courage and ability and engaged him in a battle in which various weapons were used, inflicting heavy losses upon him. At 1830, the enemy remnants retreated in disgrace, leaving behind 61 dead on the battlefield whom they were unable to evacuate.
2. Enemy losses in various other battles: eight killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area and two killed in the Abadan area. Thus, total enemy losses in personnel is 71 killed.

B. In equipment: five vehicles, one loaded with personnel, seven guns, one bulldozer and two stockpiles were destroyed. One helicopter was shot down in the area of Khafajiyeh [Susangerd], believed to have been carrying some military officials.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Seven martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: One mortar, one gun and one vehicle were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 December 1980

'OFFICIAL SYRIAN SOURCE' ON WITHDRAWAL FROM BORDER

JN130837 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Dec 80 p 1

[Text] Damascus--News agencies have reported from Damascus that the Syrian forces will complete their withdrawal from the Jordanian-Syrian border within 24 hours. The reports add that the withdrawal of forces is taking place swiftly and on a large scale so that the last soldier will be withdrawn today, according to an official Syrian source.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON INTERVENTION IN GULF

JN121245 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has declared that Jordan opposes any intervention in the Gulf region. He said that Jordan stresses that the Gulf states' security must be left in the hands of the Gulf states. In a statement to REUTER, Abu 'Awdah said that His Majesty King Husayn has time and again declared Jordan's stand that this vital region must be kept away from foreign domination. The minister's statement came in response to the proposal made by Soviet leader Brezhnev last Wednesday on the peace and security of the Gulf states.

13 DEC ROYAL COURT STATEMENT THANKS CITIZENS

JN131926 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Dec 80

["Text" of statement issued by the Jordanian royal Hashemite court on 13 December 1980]

[Text] Upon the orders of the homeland's leader, His Majesty King Husayn, the royal Hashemite court extends love and appreciation to all the citizens of our Jordanian family--in the desert and rural areas, in the cities, villages and camps, in the fields and factories, in the universities and schools, in the labor unions' federations, in the fields of intellect, in the societies of man and women and in the youth clubs--for their firm and certain commitment to defend every single particle of the beloved homeland's soil and for their glorious national stand in the face of every danger, massing or challenge.

The faithful Jordanian people's rallying around King Husayn's brave and pioneering leadership, their true affiliation to the Jordanian homeland and their confidence in our valiant forces have been an expression of the united spontaneous stand of the leadership and the people in the face of any attempt to undermine Jordan's will and pan-Arab trend, which is characterized by clarity, sincerity and commitment.

The royal Hashemite court, while conveying leader King Husayn's pride in the stand of manliness and honor adopted by our Jordanian people with all their potentials and capabilities in shouldering responsibility and performing duty and while expressing its pride in this genuine national and pan-Arab stand, beseeches God Almighty to safeguard dear Jordan and protect the march of good in it so that the nation's aspirations for might, dignity and victory will be attained.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET SOCIETY--Amman, 14 Dec (PETRA)--Soviet-Jordanian friendship societies based in Jordan and the Soviet Union this evening signed an agreement for a programme of cooperation in cultural and education affairs. Under the agreement signed here the two societies will arrange exchanges of visits by Jordanian and Soviet lecturers and cultural delegations, and scholarships for the 25 Jordanian students annually to study in the Soviet Union, of whom five will be selected for post-graduate scholarships. [Text] [Amman Jordan TIMES in English 15 Dec 80 p 2 JN]

DISPOSITION OF MINISTERS' RESIGNATIONS ANNOUNCED

NC142105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] The meeting between President Ilyas Sarkis and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan ended at 2115 tonight. After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked about the solution that had been reached, which will be presented to the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday, in light of the political stand that had crystallized last night. Al-Wazzan answered:

[Begin recording] There is no doubt that the position that crystallized yesterday was important. It has placed us in new circumstances that require a rapid tackling of the situation, particularly since we are drawing nearer to the day that has been fixed for a meeting of the chamber of deputies, at which time a vote of confidence in the government will be taken. At today's meeting with his excellency, the president, we decided that it was appropriate to discuss the subject of the resignations that have been handed in by Minister Munir Abu Fadil and Minister Anwar as-Sabbah. As far as minister Munir Abu Fail's resignation is concerned, it has been decided to accept it. Regarding Minister Anwar as-Sabbah's resignation, however, it has definitely been decided to reject it. Regarding the other resignations that have been placed at his excellency the president's disposal, it has been decided, as has been stated in the communique issued by the presidency, to request the ministers to continue performing their ministerial duties.

There is one more thing which must be clarified: It is that soon we shall undertake to appoint an orthodox minister to replace Minister Abu Fadil. And we consider that the appointee must be a member of the chamber of deputies. [end recording] Prime Minister al-Wazzan left the Presidential Palace for the house of Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. He was accompanied by Education Minister Rene Mu'awwad.

The presidency's directorate general has issued the following statement:

As a result of the meeting held tonight between his excellency the president and his excellency the prime minister it has been decided:

1. To accept the written resignation handed in by Minister Munir Abu Fadil.
2. To reject the written resignation handed in by Minister Anwar as-Sabbah.
3. To request Ministers 'Ali al-Khalib, Mahmud 'Ammar and Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, who had placed their resignations at the disposal of his excellency the president, to continue performing their ministerial tasks.

SYRIAN OFFICIAL'S VEHICLE FIRED UPON IN SHTAWRAH

NC130752 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] The secretary general of the Syrian People's Assembly, Brig Gen (Isma'il Hilal), escaped unhurt when fire was opened at his vehicle in Shtawrah. His daughter (Amal), 10, was moved to the American Hospital in Beirut and soon died of her wounds. Investigation is underway to reveal the circumstances of the incident. Some sources, however, said that soldiers manning an Arab Deterrent Forces' [ADF] roadblock mistakenly opened fire at the vehicle of Syrian Brig Gen (Isma'il Hilal), who was accompanied by his wife and three children. He was on his way back to Damascus. After passing through the Syrian ADF roadblock, between Jalala and Sa'd Nayil, the soldiers manning the roadblock opened fire at the vehicle--which carried a government number plate--hitting it with seven bullets.

AFP: WEATHER-DELAYED TROOP WITHDRAWAL COMPLETED

NC141036 Paris AFP in English 1027 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus, 14 Dec (AFP)--Syria withdrew the last of its troops from the border with Jordan at dawn today, an official source said here. The operation, scheduled to be completed by midnight yesterday, was held up by torrential rain which began on Wednesday turning into snow later and only ending today.

MERGER WITH LIBYA TO BE BOOSTED IN 'NEXT FEW DAYS'

JN141321 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Amin al-Bashshari, secretary of the Administrative Committee for Revolutionary Information in the Libyan Jamahiriyah, has affirmed that the next few days will witness a strong boost in the implementation program of unity between the fraternal countries of Syria and Libya. In an exclusive statement made to the SANA reporter in Tunis [as heard], he said this boost will consist in achieving tangible progress on the way to achieving this pan-Arab goal. He added: Our masses and leadership in Libya look on this unity as an urgent necessity because it constitutes unity in fighting against the Zionist enemy, U.S. imperialism and the policy of Camp David. This unity will also contribute toward freeing the Arab will and occupied Arab lands because it will put Syrian and Libyan potentials in the same trench.

FATAH LEADER CITED ON JORDANIAN ARREST OF FEDAYEEN

JN142030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Beirut--Samih (?Abu Kuwayk), Fatah Central Committee member and official in charge of Jordanian affairs, has asserted that the U.S. stand on the tension between Jordan and Syria exposed the truth of the Jordanian role when Washington hastened to airlift arms and ammunition to Jordan, coupling this with several threats against Syria and several statements about the Jordanian regime to the effect that the United States cares about the Jordanian regime's security and interests and that it will not allow any harm to come to its stability.

In a press statement to the Lebanese newspaper AS-SADIR, Samih (?Abu Kuwayk) referred to the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, which has reached a deadlock, by saying: This dialogue is now limited to the political level, because the Jordanian regime has exploited the dialogue with the PLO to cover up actions intended to contain the Palestinian revolution's strugglers through diverse methods, such as exploiting passports as documents in order to follow on up the movements of our people's sons who leave the occupied land, along with persecuting and arresting the fighters. The Fatah Central Committee member added: Perhaps an example of this is the sentences of execution passed against five Fatah fedayeen after they were arrested while on their way to the occupied territory.

AL-ASAD EXCHANGES MESSAGES WITH LEBANESE PRESIDENT

JN151124 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Text] Damascus--At 1115 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese National Education Minister Rene Mu'awwad, who conveyed a message from President Ilyas Sarkis. President Hafiz al-Asad handed the Lebanese minister a reply message to the Lebanese president. During the meeting, President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated Syria's support for fraternal Lebanon.

LIBYA

JANA SAYS MAURITANIA PROTESTS IRAQI EMBASSY ACTIONS

LD130059 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Nouakchott--The Military Committee of National Salvation of Mauritania held an urgent meeting to discuss the suspect behavior of the Iraqi Embassy in Mauritania. JANA has learned that the Mauritanian foreign minister had summoned, during the past 2 days, the Iraqi ambassador in Nouakchott and handed him a strong official protest against the behavior of the Iraqi Embassy in Nouakchott, its overt movements and its attempt to sow sedition in Mauritania.

CONGO'S SASSOU-N'GUESSO SUPPORTS LIBYA ON CHAD

LD142044 Tripoli JANA in English 1405 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Brazzaville, 14 Dec (JANA)--The Congolese president, Dennis Sassou-N'guesso, expressed his country's support for efforts exerted by the Jamahiriyah for peace, security and stability in Chad, and confrontation of colonialism in Africa. He said his country's views on Chad directly coincided with those of the Jamahiriyah's.

The Congolese president reaffirmed support for the legitimate Chadian Government. He said his country will work for implementation of the Lagos agreement. President N'guesso praised during his reception for the foreign secretary Dr. 'Ali at-Turayki this morning, the Jamahiriyah role in support of African struggle. He called on African countries to join forces in confronting colonialist conspiracies aimed at Africa.

MALIAN MINISTERS PRAISE LIBYAN AID TO AFRICA

LD130344 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Bamako--The joint commission between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Mali has held a meeting in Bamako during the past 2 days. The ministers of foreign affairs, cooperation, information, social affairs, industrial development, finance, trade and agriculture expressed their satisfaction and that of the people in the Republic of Mali with the efforts of the Jamahiriyah on the African continent. They stressed that it is only the state which finances projects that are beneficial to the African peoples, while other Arab states invest their money in foreign countries, a fact that achieves the interests of the imperialist states.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA ANNOUNCES PLAN TOWARD DEMOCRATIZATION

LD122258 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, head of the Military Committee for National Salvation of State and Government, this evening addressed an important speech to the Mauritanian people the text of which is as follows:

Officers, NCO's and soldiers, dear compatriots: The armed forces, when they seized power on 10 July 1978 in response to the desire of the people, at a time when the country was passing through a situation of total chaos, publically pledged to restore peace, to reform and develop the economic situation and to establish democratic institutions. The first aim was achieved on 5 August 1979. As to the economic reforms, it can be stated that the process which leads to this objective has already begun and positive results have been achieved thanks to the policy of austerity and strict management, a policy which was determined by the Military Committee for National Salvation.

This leaves the third objective which is of no less importance than the other two, namely the establishment of true democratic institutions.

In this connection the Military Committee for National Salvation, during its current session, has decided to begin the process which can soon lead to the fostering of a real democracy. Accordingly, the executive organ of the state will henceforth be entrusted to a premier who will be charged with forming a civilian government. The premier, who will be responsible to the National Committee for National Salvation, is entrusted with the task of establishing democratic institutions in the near future while preserving the gains which have so far been achieved in all fields. A draft constitution will soon be published and submitted to the people to express their view on it freely in a referendum.

Naturally, the Military Committee for National Salvation will continue to watch and direct the work of government until the democratic institutions have been established in a permanent form.

On this occasion I call on all Mauritanians to show patriotism and maturity in realizing the significance and importance of this decision which responds to the just aspirations of our people.

Plans for Prime Minister

AB131524 Paris AFP in English 1318 GMT 13 Dec 80

[Text] Nouakchott, Mauritania, 13 Dec (AFP)--Sidahmed Ould Bneijara, civilian governor of Mauritania's Nouadhibou region, will be named as prime minister and oversee the formation of a civilian government, an unofficial but reliable source said here today.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, head of state and president of Mauritania's ruling Military Committee of National Salvation (CMSN), announced yesterday plans to name a civilian prime minister and the setting up of a true democracy.

He said that the new prime minister would be responsible to the CMSN, which intends to continue supervising and guiding the action of the government until the actual establishment of democratic institutions. He gave no indication about who would be named as prime minister. Col Haydala also said that a new draft constitution would soon be promulgated and submitted to a popular referendum. The CMSN, which has ruled Mauritania since overthrow of President Moktar Ould Daddah's civilian regime in July, 1978, has promised to reestablish peace, save the national economy, and set up democratic institutions.

MOROCCO

DETENTION OF SOVIET SHIPS TERMED 'ROUTINE'

LD132130 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT

[Text] It has been learned from authoritative sources that the Soviet fishing vessels detained by the Royal Navy near the Samaran shores were caught fishing in an area inside Moroccan territorial waters. The two vessels were escorted to the port of Dakhla where they are at present awaiting the ruling applied in accordance with Moroccan law in this field. The same sources affirmed that the matter concerns a routine operation such as that which the Royal Navy carries out against all foreign vessels which violated Moroccan territorial waters. The Moroccan sources added that with regard to the vessel (Bruncy), the crew of this vessel tried several times to carry out maneuvers against the coast guard boat At-Triki of the Royal Navy which approached to seize the Soviet fishing vessel. One of these maneuvers was an attempt to kidnap two officers of the Royal Navy who went on board the vessel.

Out of the desire to contain this incident within its true framework, the Moroccan authorities have begun talks with the Soviet authorities. The Soviet consul general in Casablanca was allowed to proceed to Dakhla and contact members of the crew of the two detained vessels. These circles have expressed their regret at the distorted interpretation given to this incident by some quarters which seek to disturb the clarity of relations between Morocco and the Soviet Union at a time when the recent visit of the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation to Moscow enabled the opening of encouraging prospects for these relations. The same circles affirmed that Morocco, while eager to maintain these relations within the framework of the traditional friendship which exist between the two countries, will not abandon its responsibilities and will not permit that its sovereignty over its territorial waters be breached so openly.

TUNISIA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MINTOFF'S VISIT

LD130058 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] After the official visit paid by Mr Dom Mintoff, prime minister of Malta, to Tunisia, at the invitation of Prime Minister Mr Mohamed Mzali, a joint communique was released which says in particular that Mr Dom Mintoff has had talks with a number of Tunisian ministers and was received by the president of the republic.

During their talks and the working session they convened, in the presence of the two accompanying delegations and in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality, the two prime ministers reviewed topical international issues of common interest, and particularly those related to the situation in the Mediterranean. The two prime ministers have had the opportunity to reaffirm their attachment to the basic principles of nonalignment and especially territorial integrity, and noninterference in the domestic affairs of others.

The two sides, on the other hand, expressed their attachment to the principles of the UN Charter as an ideal way of settling international disputes peacefully. The Tunisian Government welcomed the decision of the Maltese people to adopt a position of neutrality and expressed its unreserved support for such a line. After examining the issues of the hour at the international level the two prime ministers reaffirmed the determination of their respective governments to strengthen peace wherever it happened to be threatened. In this respect, they once again came out in support of the struggle of all peoples under the yoke of foreign control and particularly the peoples of Palestine, Namibia and South Africa.

The two prime ministers and the Maltese and Tunisian delegations thoroughly examined all aspects of bilateral relations and expressed their desire to give fresh impetus to these relations in the near future, and to seek ways and means of strengthening cooperation between them. In this respect, the two delegations looked into a number of practical proposals aimed at developing economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries, and particularly in the fields of agriculture, trade and tourism.

Mr Dom Mintoff invited the Tunisian prime minister to visit Malta. Mr Mohamed Mzali accepted the invitation with satisfaction; the date of the visit will be fixed later.

CABINET DISCUSSES PROPOSALS FOR NEW BUDGET

TA141228 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The Cabinet meeting ended a few minutes ago. No decision was taken on the draft budget submitted by the finance minister, so another session will have to be held during the week. Is that how it was, Gid'on Zelinger, our economic affairs correspondent?

[Zelinger] True. As expected, the session ended but the discussion did not. As far as we know, the ministers discussed only the budget--the restraining budget--and not the other components of the economic plan. Also as expected, the finance minister made it clear that all the ministries would have to cut back, including the Defense Ministry.

Further Report

TA141539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz suggested today at the Cabinet session that the coalition initiate early elections. Our correspondent, Razi Barqay, reported that in a verbal exchange with the ministers the finance minister said that if the government is unable to decide on its economic policy, it may be advisable to turn to the people and hold early elections.

The prime minister did not talk much at this Cabinet meeting, but at the conclusion of the meeting he told the finance minister that his proposed cuts would be detrimental to security and it was, therefore, impossible to agree to them. Begin said that neither the IDF nor the Defense Ministry could possibly accept such large cuts in the defense budget under the current political circumstances.

Correspondent Gid'on Zelinger said that the minister of finance sought to make the largest cuts in the defense budget, but the social and welfare services were also required to cut their spending. The cut in the ministries' budgets amounted to 5 percent. The finance minister suggested a reduction in the different social allowances and a cut in project revival.

Ministers Burg and Levi called Hurvitz's attention to the approaching elections and Minister Ehrlich, Shamir and Nisim asked for details of the economic plan, saying that they would find it hard to endorse the budget proposal without knowing the economic plan.

The finance minister said that only after the budget was endorsed would he make further economic policy proposals. Minister Hurvitz further said that he would not withdraw his economic revival plan but he did say that several changes were necessary.

SECURITY DIRECTOR EXPECTED TO LEAVE POST

TA140821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 14 Dec 80

[Text] The head of the security services, Avraham Ahituv, is expected to leave his post in another week. Prime Minister Begin has informed the Cabinet that he has acceded to Mr Ahituv's request to leave his post.

Mr Begin has also informed the Cabinet of the appointment of a new head for the security services but his identity will remain secret as long as he holds the post.

The prime minister thanked the outgoing general security service director for his great and lengthy contribution to Israel's security and he congratulated the incoming director, wishing him success in his post.

UGANDA

MATERIALS ON OBOTE VICTORY IN GENERAL ELECTION

Election Results

LD131208 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1109 GMT 13 Dec EA

[Excerpts] Election results that we have received are: Conservative Party--nil; Democratic Party--44; Uganda People's Congress [UPC]--65; Uganda Patriotic Movement--1.

Dr Milton Obote, the president of UPC and the former president of Uganda, has won the general elections.

U.S., British Statements

LD131528 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0905 GMT 13 Dec 80 EA

[Ugandan Military Commission press release]

[Excerpt] The chairman of the military commission yesterday met the American ambassador to Uganda, His Excellency Gordon Beyer. The American ambassador expressed satisfaction at the way the elections were conducted and promised that the United States will give every possible assistance. He hoped that the wishes of the Uganda people, as freely expressed in the elections, will be respected by the military commission.

The meeting was followed by a call from the British high commissioner to Uganda, His Excellency Hillier-Fry, who was accompanied by an officer of the British high commission to Uganda. Mr Fry conveyed a message from Lord Carrington to the chairman of the military commission, thanking the commission for the efforts it had made to hold the general elections.

The British Government was satisfied that the elections were conducted in a free and fair manner and hoped that the wishes of the Ugandan people, as reflected in the outcome of the election results,will be respected, and an announcement in this respect will be made without delay.

Nyerere Congratulations

LD131552 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1441 GMT 13 Dec 80 EA

["Text" of congratulatory message from Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere to Dr Milton Obote, president of the Uganda People's Congress]

[Text] On behalf of the government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi and on my own behalf, I send congratulations to you as leader of the Uganda People's Congress on your election victory in the general elections in Uganda.

The people have expressed their confidence in you and your party and I look forward to cordial cooperation between our two countries and two governments in the coming months and years. The return to rule by an elected government after years of Amin's tyranny is the forerunner of a new phase of East African cooperation to which we look forward with great pleasure.

Moi Congratulatory Message

LD141026 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0934 GMT 14 Dec 80 EA

["Text" of congratulatory message from Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi to Dr Milton Obote, president of the Uganda People's Congress]

[Text] I take this opportunity to congratulate you personally and the Uganda People's Congress both on my behalf and that of the Kenya African National Union for winning the elections just completed in your country. It is my earnest hope that your triumph will bring with it political stability and maintenance of law and order in Urganda so that a new climate conducive to peaceful reconstruction and development of your country can now reign.

Obote Response to Moi

LD142021 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Dec 80 EA

[Excerpts] President-elect Dr Apollo Milton Obote has invited President Moi of Kenya or a delegation led by his representative to attend the swearing-in ceremony. In reply to a message of congratulations sent to him by President Moi, Dr Obote reaffirmed Uganda's determination to maintain the historical friendly and goodneighborly relations with Kenya. We look forward, he said, to close cooperation between our governments, the parties and our two peoples.

President Kaunda has also talked to President-elect Obote on the telephone to congratulte him on the great victory of the Uganda People's Congress in the 1980 Uganda general election. Dr Kaunda told Dr Obote that the UPC's success is a victory both for Uganda and Africa. Dr Kaunda said he looks forward to meeting Dr Apollo Milton Obote and promised to send a delegation to Uganda very soon.

Army Commander's Statements

LD141632 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 13 Dec 80 EA

[Text] The commander of the Uganda [National] Liberation Army, UNLA, Maj Gen Tito Okello, today stated that security reports reaching his office indicate that the entire country was peaceful and jubilant with the outcome of the results. The major general stated that he had a meeting with the heads of the security forces, namely police, prisons, and the chief of staff, during which the officers reported that the country is calm and peaceful.

There are, however, indications that there are certain individuals or groups who are likely to take this opportunity to (?beat) or harass innocent citizens in an attempt [words indistinct]. To this effect, Maj Gen Tito Okello sounded a strong warning to all those intending to do so to refrain from any unnecessary acts that are likely to disturb the peace in any part of the country. The security forces are under orders to deal firmly with any acts of violence, intimidation or (?beatings) be it by [words indistinct] or members of the armed forces.

He said the majority of the results were already out through Radio Uganda and we appeal to all parties to accept the verdict as was the exercised by the (?mass) of the voters. The period ahead of us should be devoted for meaningful development, reconstruction and rehabilitation of our country, Uganda. He concluded that the voters throughout had demonstrated their wishes (?through) a great sense of maturity during the election period, which ended peacefully.

Administrators and members of the security forces are willingly prepared to reciprocate this gesture by bringing about closer association and understanding between them and the common man.

Muwanga Speech

LD151308 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0745 GMT 15 Dec 80

[Speech by Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the Military Commission of the Ugandan National Liberation Front, at the inauguration of President Apollo Milton Obote--live]

[Text] Your Excellency the president-elect--the president, Dr Apollo Milton Obote; your excellencies, members of the Presidential Commission; honorable chief justice, Judge George Masika; your excellencies the ambassadors and high commissioners; religious leaders, distinguished guests, honorable members of Parliament, ladies and gentlemen:

We observe today not a mere swearing in ceremony; not merely an election victory of a political party. We observe today a great occasion in the long and heroic struggle of the mission of our people for democracy and freedom. [applause]. Today is a great occasion, celebrating the rebirth of freedom, symbolizing an end of eight unhappy years of brutal oppression and incalculable human tragedy. It is of singular importance in the political history of the African continent.

A president, who was illegally and unjustly overthrown while defending the cause of African liberation, is now once again being inaugurated as the president after a general elections victory. [applause] This is a clear proof of the high esteem and sense of fairness our people have in correcting the injustices that were committed in 1971. [applause]

I salute all fellow citizens, with a feeling of pride and affection. Nearly 7 months ago when the military commission assumed the leadership of this country, we pledged to the nation the restoration of democracy to the people of Uganda, by holding general elections. No responsibility of government is more fundamental than the responsibility of honoring and fulfilling pledges made by those who conduct public affairs. [applause]

Today, I am pleased to report to the nation that the first big step towards the restoration of democracy and fulfilment of our pledge is what we are witnessing. [applause] In this connection, I wish to express my deep appreciation to my colleagues in the military commission, and the Cabinet ministers, for their commitment and dedication to the welfare of this nation. They have met their responsibilities with high distinction. [applause]

Fellow citizens: To conduct such a successful general election, in the context of our time, against the background of a shattered economy, 10 years of political oppression and enfeebled administrative structure--a continuing security problem--is and was a formidable task. I (?feel) that, despite imperfections and deficiencies, they have successfully supervised what the commonwealth observer group agreed and termed a valid electoral exercise [words indistinct] of the people of Uganda. [applause]

To the UPC [Uganda Peoples Congress]: You are the heirs of liberation in this country. [applause]

To reach this point, innumerable sons and daughters of Uganda and Tanzania have had to sacrifice their lives for the noble cause of freedom and dignity and progress of Africa. Never permit the undoing of the human sacrifices your comrades, who lost their lives in the struggle for freedom made. I urge you to accept the election victory with courage and humility, remembering that those who suffered, fought and died for us to be free did not do so in vain.

I want also to express my deep appreciation to all political parties and their leaders for their cooperation and participation in the electoral process. It is my hope that those political parties which have not been victorious in the general elections will respect the wishes of the people of Uganda, as reflected in the outcome of the elections, without a sense of humiliation, but with honor. [applause]

In this respect, I wish to humbly inform the nation that on Friday, 13 December 1980 [date as heard], I met the DP [Democratic Party] president general, with his senior colleagues, in Kampala. They thanked me personally, and the military commission, for having concluded a free and fair election and urged me to make arrangement to transfer the instruments of state to the majority party.

I will take the opportunity to talk to you all that I assured the president general of the DP and his colleagues that as soon as most of the results are received, I will call upon the majority leader to be sworn in and form a government. [applause]

I gave the same assurance to several ambassadors and high commissioners who called on me last week and urged me to respect the wishes of the people of Uganda as reflected in the outcome of the elections.

I am now surprised by the statement issued by the DP that they do not accept the results of the elections when, only last week, they wanted to form a government on the basis of the election results. [laughter]

To accept the outcome of the elections for citizens when you are sure you are winning and reject everything when it is clear you have lost undermines the very bases of democracy and fair play.

In the name of democracy and for respect of our country, I urge the DP leadership to respect the wishes of the people of Uganda as reflected in the outcome of the elections. [applause]

The military commissions has accepted the results and we are honoring our pledge to hand over the instruments of state to the elected government. [applause]

To our Tanzanian brothers, no words can express my gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifices to our liberation and continued support during the most difficult time, after the overthrow of fascism in this country. [applause]

Tanzania has since 1971 been willing to pay any price, bear any burden and meet any hardship to ensure the survival of our people and restoration of democracy and unity in our motherland. Without Tanzanian support, my work as the chairman of the military commission would have been unattainable. We shall forever be grateful to Tanzanians for their spirit and sacrifice. [applause] Our friendship with Tanzania is sealed in blood. [applause]

Finally, to my fellow countrymen, I wish to thank you all for the support you have given. As for the peaceful and mature conduct, you did not threaten during the election period. [sentence as heard] Whatever successes that have been achieved depended in great part upon your contribution.

Your Excellency, Dr Apollo Milton Obote: In congratulating you on this occasion of your inauguration as president of our motherland, I wish to draw your attention to the formidable challenges ahead.

Guns are still plentiful in the hands of criminals and killing, in all parts of the country, has not been completely stopped. The economy is shattered and infrastructures such as roads and railways are virtually destroyed. The social services, education and health facilities are all in shambles. Our public service is demoralized and completely incapable of implementing a government policy with speed, loyalty and dedication. The moral standards of our people have been eroded. These are some of awesome challenges that this country is facing as you assume leadership.

Nevertheless I am totally convinced that, under your leadership, particularly with clarity of vision and steadfastness of purpose and the experience that you have, Mr President, this country will make significant progress towards a functioning society and raise this glorious nation of ours to great heights of complete lasting freedom and progress. [applause].

I wish you the best of luck, for God and my country. [applause]